



Clean Water State Revolving Fund Affordability Criteria Effective September 30, 2015

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) affordability criteria will be used to determine principal forgiveness eligibility within Georgia's CWSRF loan program administered by the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA).

The criteria is based on weighted factors for median household income (MHI), unemployment rate and population trends of the borrower (or the project area if the project is located in a different jurisdiction) and the type of project.

A borrower must receive a minimum of **10** points to qualify for principal forgiveness. Points available for each factor are as follows:

1. Income

If the borrower's MHI (or the MHI of the project area if the project is located in a different jurisdiction) is **below** \$39,343 (80 percent of the state's MHI of \$49,179), as determined by the U.S. Census Bureau¹, **eight** points will be awarded.

If the borrower's MHI (or the MHI of the project area if the project is located in a different jurisdiction) is **above** \$39,343 (80 percent of the state's MHI of \$49,179), as determined by the U.S. Census Bureau, **one** point will be awarded.

2. Unemployment

If the borrower's unemployment rate (or the unemployment rate of the project area if the project is located in a different jurisdiction) is **above** 7.2 percent (state of Georgia's unemployment rate), as determined by the U.S. Census Bureau, **seven** points will be awarded.

If the borrower's unemployment rate (or the unemployment rate of the project area if the project is located in a different jurisdiction) is **below** 7.2 percent (state of Georgia's unemployment rate), as determined by the U.S. Census Bureau, **one** point will be awarded.

¹ American FactFinders Five -Year Estimates (2009-2013), <http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>

3. Population Trend

If the borrower's population (or the population of the project area if the project is located in a different jurisdiction) **decreased** when comparing the 2000 Census to the 2010 Census as determined by the U.S. Census Bureau, **two** points will be awarded.

If the borrower's population (or the population of the project area if the project is located in a different jurisdiction) **increased** when comparing the 2000 Census to the 2010 Census as determined by the U.S. Census Bureau, **one** point will be awarded.

4. Project Type

If the borrower will complete a project that **will** implement a process, material, technique, or technology to address any of the following, **seven** points will be awarded. Projects eligible for principal forgiveness must be constructed solely to address one of the items below and cannot be combined with an ineligible activity:

- a. Water-efficiency goals
- b. Energy-efficiency goals
- c. Mitigate stormwater runoff

If the borrower **will not** complete a project that will implement a process, material, technique, or technology to address any of the items above, **zero** points will be awarded.

Water-efficiency goals can be found on GEFA's website at <http://gefa.georgia.gov/water-conservation-financing>.

Energy-efficiency goals can be found on GEFA's website at <http://gefa.georgia.gov/energy-conservation-financing>.

Projects to mitigate stormwater runoff include, but are not limited to, green infrastructure, stormwater conveyance infrastructure and other flood control measures, installation of stormwater best management practices (BMPs) and other stormwater treatment systems, acquisition of stream buffer, stream restoration, floodplain management projects and other land conservation projects with a water quality benefit.

Principal forgiveness funds will be allocated to those projects that receive the highest score based upon the pre-application scoring criteria used in the CWSRF 2016 project solicitation process. Principal forgiveness will be allocated to the highest scoring projects until all principal forgiveness is exhausted. There is no guarantee that principal forgiveness will be available to a project regardless of score if the project does receive **10** points based on this affordability criteria. GEFA reserves the right to consider some non-governmental organizations eligible for principal forgiveness for land conservation projects.